(b) if so, by when the said bypass would be ready after construction;

(c) whether any provision has been made in the Budget for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the status of construction at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) There is a proposal for construction of bypass to Seoni Town (Sivni Nagar) on NH-7.

(b) to (d) Bypass to Seoni Town is included in the project of four laning of NH 7 from km 596.750 (Seoni) to km 653.225 (M.P./Maharashtra Border). This project has been taken up on BOT (Annuity) basis and Concession Agreement has already been signed on 30-5-2007. The project is targeted to be completed within 30 months from the date of commencement, which is reckoned as 180 days from the date of signing of Concession Agreement. During construction, the expenditure is to be borne by the concessionaire.

Blueprint for Sea transportation

552. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) has prepared a blueprint for the next twenty years to meet the growing demands of sea transportation in the liberalized scenario;

(b) if so, whether the issue of creating adequate maritime training facilities form part of the blueprint;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not coming up with a blueprint so far and the non-inclusion of training aspect in the blueprint therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. (SCI) has prepared, a blueprint to meet the growing demands of sea transportation in the liberalized scenario for the 5 year period *viz.* 11th Five Year Plan (2007-12). Further, the Government has formulated a comprehensive National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) for the development of the Maritime Industry of our country and SCI has proposed to acquire 76, vessels with an estimated cost of Rs. 15,000 crores by 2012 under NMDP. The company has already acquired 2 vessels and placed orders for the construction of 18 more vessels.

(b) and (c) SCI already has a training institute *viz.* Maritime Training Institute (MTI) in Mumbai which is presently engaged in the various activities. SCI has proposed blueprint for the next 20 years for the said Institute which is as under:–

(i) Introduction of Simulator Training for the following:

- LNG/LPG Personnel
- Liquid cargo handling simulator

- Bridge simulator (work in progress)
- Training of ECDIS (Electronic Chart Display & Information System)
- Training of Simulator for Engine Room and Ship handling.

(ii) To be Regional learning Centre for the proposed Indian Maritime University.

(iii) Regional Branch of World Maritime University (WMU) for conducting IMO Seminar and courses of WMU.

(iv) Enhancement of Physical infrastructure *viz.*:

- Putting up Additional floor at Academic block for increasing student output.
- Up-grading classroom facilities to include, digital projection in all class-room with wireless LAN system.
- Building facilities for conducting survival and Boat-work training.

(d) Does not arise.

Work on Bundar Port in Krishna

553. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the port works of Bundar port in Krishna which were to be started in June, 2007, have been started;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether MoU has been entered into with Mytas Consortium; and

(d) if so, the details of the MoU?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWYAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) Bundar Port is a Non-Major port in the State of Andhra Pradesh. According to information furnished by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, which is responsible for the development of the Non-Major ports in the State, the reply to parts (a) and (c) of the Question is in the negative.

Revival of Waterways in Andhra Pradesh

554. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to revive 1,073 Kms. of Waterways in the State of Andhra Pradesh by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has come to the notice of his Ministry;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Central Water Transportation Authority has also assured the State Government of Andhra Pradesh its helping hand in reviving the waterways in the State; and